

Intimations.

G. FALCONER & Co.,
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS.
HOTEL MANSIONS.

NEW SELECTIONS OF
DIAMOND JEWELLERY AND ENGLISH SILVER WARE
HIGH-CLASS GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES;
LARGE SELECTION OF PRESENTATION PLATE, CUPS, BOWLS, ETC.
G. FALCONER & Co. ARE ASKED FOR ROSS'S FAMOUS TELESCOPES AND
BINOCCULARS, LORD KELVIN'S NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS,
ADMIRALTY CHARTS AND BOOKS

SOLE AGENTS FOR THE EMPIRE TYPEWRITER.

WING KEE & CO.,

Nos. 47, 48 and 49, CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL.
SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS, PROVISION MERCHANTS, COAL
MERCHANTS, &c., &c., OF FIFTY YEARS STANDING.
SHIP CAPTAINS ARE REQUESTED TO GIVE US A TRIAL.
FRANCISCO TSE YAT, General Manager.

MEE CHEUNG & CO.,

ART PHOTOGRAPHER, ICE HOUSE LANE.
SPECIALIST IN ENLARGING AND BROMIDE WORK.
Select Views of Hongkong and South-China.
Special Department for Developing and Printing for Amateurs.
CAMERAS FOR HIRE.

CHAMPAONE**G.H. MUMM & Co.**
REIMS

Shawson Tomes & Co.
GENERAL AGENTS
FOR
HONG KONG, CANTON
& MACAO.

Hongkong, January 27, 1910.

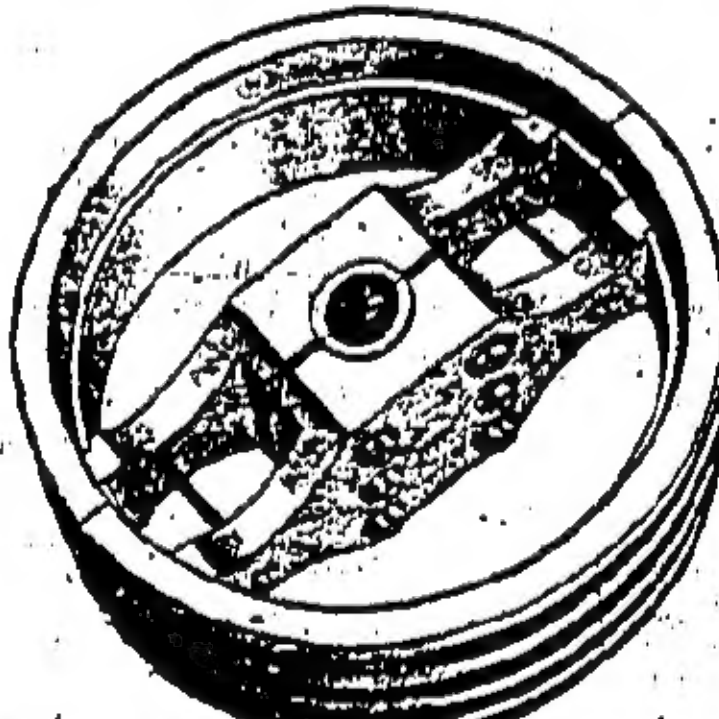
**GANDY'S -
BELTING -**

MADE BY THE
GANDY BELT MANUFACTURING CO.,
SHACOMEE, ENGLAND.
IS THE ONLY ORIGINAL.
41 Prizes Awarded.
SEE THAT YOU GET THE GENUINE ENGLISH.

DODGE WOOD SPLIT PULLEYS.

ALL SIZES
TO FIT ALL
SIZED SHAFTS
IN STOCK.

FURTHER
PARTICULARS



SOLE AGENTS.
MELCHERS & CO.

DINNEFORDS

The Universal Remedy for Acidity of the
Stomach, Headache, Heartburn, Indigestion,
Bile, Flatulence, Bilious Affections.



THE CHINA MAIL, LTD.

ALL SORTS OF ARTISTIC JOB-PRINTING

such as:

INVITATION CARDS, MENUS, DANCE AND ENTERTAINMENT

PROGRAMMES, CIRCULARS, PAMPHLETS, BOOKS, PROSPECT

TUBES, WINE LABELS, ETC., ETC., ETC.

Obtain quotations from:

THE CHINA MAIL OFFICE,

5, Wyndham Street.

European Supervision

Moderate Prices.

Intimations.

MITSU BISHI GOSHIKWAISHA
(MITSU BISHI CO.)
COAL DEPARTMENT.

SOLE PROPRIETORS OF TAKA-
SIMA, OCHI, MUTABE, HOJO,
NAMAZUTA, SAYO, SHINNEN
and KAMITAMADA Collieries.

SOLE AGENTS for KISHIDAKE, MI
YAO, and KIGIO-KOMATSU Coals.

HEAD OFFICE - TOKYO.
BRANCH OFFICES -

Nagasaki, Moji, Karatsu,
Wakamatsu, Kobe, Osaka,
Shanghai, Hongkong, Hankow.

TVL ADDRESS for above: 'IWASAKI'.
Codes: -AL, ABO 5th Ed., Western Union.

AGENCIES:
YOKOHAMA: M. Asada, Esq.
CHINESE: Messrs Gearing &
Co.

MANILA: Messrs Macdonald &
Co.

For particulars, apply to
H. OISHI,
Manager,
No. 2, PRINCE STREET,
HONGKONG.

Hongkong, January 9, 1910.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIA-
TION.

LECTURES TO LADIES.

A SERIES OF LECTURES ON 'FIRST
AID' will be given in the Victoria
Hospital, Barker Road, the Peak, on
TUESDAY, January 11th, 1910.

A SERIES OF LECTURES ON 'HOME
NURSING' will be given in St. Paul's
College on FRIDAY, January 14th, 1910.

Ladies are requested to note that the
continuation of these lectures must depend
on the number of those who attend. Names
should be sent without delay to the Hon.
Secretary (Rev. F. T. Johnson). The fee
for each course will be \$2. Books (50 cents
each) may be obtained from the Hon.
Secretary.

Hongkong, January 4, 1910.

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the
Partnership heretofore subsisting
between us, the undersigned, A. W.
FURNELL and C. S. PAGET, carrying
on the business of Architects and Civil
Engineers at Canton, in the Empire of
China, under the style or firm of FURNELL
and PAGET, will, on the 31st
(thirty-first) day of December, 1909 (one
thousand nine hundred and nine), be dis-
solved by mutual consent. All debts due
to or owing by the late firm will be received
and paid by the undersigned C. S. PAGET,
by whom the business will in future be
carried on.

Dated the 25th day of December, 1909.
ARTHUR WILLIAM FURNELL
CHARLES SOUDER PAGET.

OWEN B. WILKS & CO.,
GENERAL & COMMISSION
AGENT.

STOCKS KEPT OF
SHIPOWNERS' ANTI-FOULING
COMPOSITIONS
FOR SHIPS' BOTTOMS (GREYHOUND BRAND).
ANTI-FRICTION METALS.
GRIPOLY BELTING,
METALLIC FILAMENT and other.
ELECTRIC LAMPS, FANS AND
SUPPLIES.

46, Connaught Road Central.
Tel. 909.
Hongkong, August 3, 1909.

DON'T 'BAT' IN BATHES!!
WHEN you may have ALL the Com-
forts at less Cost at
THE WYVERLEY.
Private Boarding House,
48, Robinson Road.
Newly decorated and fitted with every
modern convenience.
Cuisine unexcelled.
Terms Court.
Terms, Just right!
Mrs W. H. EMBERLEY,
Proprietress.

Hongkong October 28, 1909.

CARMICHAEL AND
CLARKE,
CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND
SURVEYORS.

4, Queen's Building, Hongkong.
8-5, CHANCERY ALLEY, SINGAPORE.

CHINESE ADDRESS:
CARMICHAEL HONGKONG
CARMICHAEL SINGAPORE
Codes Used: -Gosh's 10th Edition
A.B.O. 4th and 5th Editions
Gosh's Standard 4th Edition: Western
Union and A.L.
Telephone No. 221.

OUR LONDON LETTER.

(From Our Own Correspondent).

London, December 11.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's advocacy of the
principle of federation as the best method
for the settlement of the Irish question
makes it of interest to recall the fact that
Edmund Burke in his great speech on con-
ciliation with America on March 22nd,
1775, broached the same principle as a
basis of settlement between Great Britain
and the American Colonies, but very
tentatively, owing to the great barriers
created by distance, and the difficulty of
communication, which in these days of
steam and telegraphy have been diminished
to an extent that could never have entered
his imagination. "You will," he said,
imagine that I am on the point of propos-
ing a scheme for the representation of the
Colonies in Parliament. Perhaps I might
be inclined to entertain some such thought,
but a great flood stops me in my course.
I cannot remove the eternal barriers of the
creation. The thing in that mode I do not
know to be possible. As I meddle with no
theory, I do not absolutely assert the
impossibility of such a representation. But
I do not see my way to it and those
who have been more confident have not
been more successful. However, the arm
of public benevolence is not shortened and
there are often several means to the same
end. What nature has disjoined in one
way, wisdom may unite in another."

Quite a big place in the election fight in
the North of England will be played by
the cotton question. Tariff men are not
in favour among Lancashire cotton opera-
tives to whom American cotton is the raw
material of their industrial activity. So
Conservatives are anxious to encourage the
growth of cotton in British territories.
While Winston Churchill is raising Lan-
cashire for Free Trade, Mr. Arthur Balfour,
the Conservative leader, proposes a new
and really operative and valuable State
subsidy for cotton growing within the
empire. The question is raised as to
how many parts of the empire
can yield a supply of raw cotton,
which, in the aggregate, might render
Lancashire independent, more or less, of
America?

One of the most influential representa-
tives in London of the Transvaal informs
me that the old Kruger country is destined,
in his opinion, to emerge as one of the
most important cotton-growing countries
within the empire. The Government of
the Transvaal owns a very large estate to
the north, on which cotton is already being
produced in small quantities which has
been examined on the spot by an expert,
and declared to be of best quality.

The difficulty in the Transvaal has been
the absence of facilities for transport. The
cost of carrying the cotton by means of ox-
wagons to the nearest railway terminus
would spoil the game in a commercial sense
and so the Government of the Transvaal
has already set about constructing a new
railway line from the terminus at Poters-
burg through the cotton-growing quarter
to the railway which runs between Delagoa
Bay and Pretoria. In addition to this
source, East Africa is embarking on cotton
growing, but the aggregate British output
is still very small and America must remain
the main source of supply for many years
to come, even if the rosy British dreams of
empire-grown cotton ultimately materialise.

It is said in official circles that Sir
Edward Grey has made "a deal" with
Germany in regard to the Anglo-German
boundary in Central Africa and that in
consideration of the promises set out there-
in Germany is not unwilling to join with
Britain and France in forcing reforms upon
the Congo. Should this prove true it will
be a great score for the Liberal Govern-
ment, if the concessions to Germany are
not too great, for England is bitterly
hostile to the King Leopold system of
Government in "the dark Congo."

Many distinguished authors have been
giving their views on the new censorship of
books inaugurated by several of the British
leading circulating libraries. As might be
expected, they are all hostile to the scheme.
Such a censorship would be intolerable if
it could ever be made effective. How is it
possible to draw the line? There are some
passages in Thomas Hardy and George
Moorhead which would effectually ban their
books under a strict Mrs. Grundy censor-
ship. This is the view inevitably taken by
H. G. Wells, Jerome K. Jerome, Edouard
Philippe and others. Mr. Wells' view is
that "no literary censorship can suppress
indecent or vulgar, but the action of
the libraries may greatly hamper the
discussion of urgent social questions, many
of which can only be dealt with adequately
in the novel."

Jorts are also being made to stem the
tide of impure literature in Australia. The
same subject exercises the minds of eccle-
siastical leaders there as here; the Arch-
bishop of Brisbane even observing, "Australia
is going to go down if she allows herself to
be mottled and speckled by the deadly
evil that is threatening her to-day." An-
other prominent ecclesiastical spoke even
more precisely, "The community," he said,
"needs a censor of literature, for there is
now being poured forth from the printing
press of Australia and brought from abroad,
a vast flood of filthy literature." It was a
striking statement, especially made by Chief
Justice Sir John Madden in connection
(Continued on page 2.)

Intimations.

**HARBOUR MASTER'S DEPART-
MENT.**

IT is hereby notified that information
has been received from the MILITARY
AUTHORITIES that GUN PRACTICE
will be carried out as under:-

ON FRIDAY, the 7th January, 1910:-
From West of Hongkong and Stonecut-
ters in a South-Westerly to North-
Westerly direction, at ranges up to
10,700 yards, commencing at 10 a.m.
and finishing at 2 p.m.

ON SATURDAY, the 8th January, 1910:-
From Lyemun and Devil's Peak in a
South-Easterly to North-Easterly
direction, at ranges up to 14,800
yards, commencing at 2 p.m., and
finishing at 6 p.m.

ON MONDAY, the 10th January, 1910:-
From West of Hongkong and Stonecut-
ters in a South-Westerly to North-
Westerly direction, at ranges up to
6,950 yards, commencing at 7 p.m.,
and finishing at 10 p.m.

If the weather is unfavourable on any
of the above dates, practice will take place
on the following:-
All ships, junks and other vessels are to
keep clear of the range.

BASIL TAYLOR, Comdr. R.N.,
Harbour Master, &c.
Hongkong, January 1, 1910.

NOTICE.

MR COLIN CUNNINGHAM SCOTT
is admitted a PARTNER in our firm
from this date.
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Hongkong, China and Japan.
Hongkong, January 1, 1910.

A VANCOUVER ISLAND OFFERS
SUNSHINE, mild climate; good
profits for young men with small capital in
business, professions, fruit-growing, poultry,
farming, manufacturing, lands, timber,
mining, railways, navigation, fisheries, new
towns. For authentic information, free
booklets, write Vancouver Island Develop-
ment League, Room A47, Law Chambers
Bldg., Victoria, B.C.
Hongkong, September 13, 1909.

SWATOW DRAWN WORK CO.,
174, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

MANUFACTURERS of the best quality
drawn Chinese Linen,
and Grass Cloth.
ALL KINDS OF SILK OF THE BEST QUALITY.
Canton Embroidery and Chinese
Laces of the latest French
Patterns.
HONGKONG.
Hongkong, November 13, 1909.

FAT HING & CO.
HAVE ALL KINDS OF
FLOWERS, DWARF PLANTS, FERNS,
GOLD FISH, &c.
FOR SALE OR HIRE.

We invite inspection of our Free Show at
No. 2, WYNDHAM STREET, opposite
CHINA MAIL OFFICE.
Bonquets made up to order.
Hongkong, December 29, 1909.

LABUAN COAL.

NOTICE—This COAL can only be
obtained from THE LABUAN COAL-
FIELDS CO., Ltd. who are now prepared to
supply fresh Coal straight from the Mines.
Steamers load at the Wharves. Quick
despatch.
Telegrams: "LABUAN LABUAN."
BRADLEY & CO.,
Agents, Hongkong.
Hongkong, August 11, 1909.

PATELL & CO.,
Exporters & Importers

General Merchants
and
Commission Agents.

Hongkong and
Canton.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCHANTS
INSURANCE COMPANY.

TOTAL FUNDS at 31st December, 1907,
£18,114,624.
Authorized Capital £2,000,000
Subscribed Capital £2,750,000
Paid-up Capital £287,500 0 0
£ Fire Funds £8,655,374 15 11
£ Life & Annuity Funds £1,515,843 10 8
Sinking Fund Account £5,907 5 8
£18,114,624 11 11
Revenue Fire Branch £2,250,653 15 11
£ Life & Annuity £4,647,224 15 11
Branches £5,283 5 8
Sinking Fund Account £4,184,159 18 11
The Accumulated Funds of the Fire and
Life Departments are free from liability in
respect of each other.
SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
Agents.

THE COMMERCIAL LAW ATTOR-
NIES OFFICE
WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO
PARTNERSHIP REGISTRATION AND
BANKRUPTCY LAWS IN
HONGKONG.

Represented by the Chinese Med.
12, WYNDHAM STREET
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Intimations.

**SANITARY BOARD OFFICE,
HONGKONG.**

TO THE
OWNERS OF DOMESTIC BUILDINGS.

TAKE NOTICE that under No. 5 of the
DOMESTIC CLEANLINESS AND
VENTILATION BYE-LAWS (as amend-
ed), every Domestic Building or part of
such building within the CENTRAL
Division of the City of Victoria,
and the WESTERN Division of Kowloon
occupied by Members of more than one
family, except those within the European Res-
ervation or in Kowloon South of Austin
Road or those parts of a domestic build-
ing used as a shop, office or roadway, must be
CLEANSED and LIMEWASHED
THROUGHOUT by the Owners during the
months of December and January.

N.B.—The word "throughout" used in
this notice means that the houses should be
limewashed in respect of all the Walls of
each Room, all ceilings, partitions, Stair
Ceilings and Stair Linings, all Ceilings and
the Underneath of Roofs in Main
Buildings, Offices and Servants' Quarters
and inclusive of Verandahs.

The Backyard must have its Containing
Walls limewashed up to the level of the
first Floor.

Carved, Painted or Polished Woodwork
in good condition, however, need not be
limewashed but must be Cleaned.

The Central Division of the City lies
between Ghim Sa Street and Peel Street on
the East and Tank Lane and Cleverly
Street on the West.

Kowloon is divided into the Eastern
and Western divisions by Robinson Road
and a straight line drawn from the North
thereof through the Yau-mai Service
reservoir to the Northern boundary of
Kowloon.

The Government Limewashing Con-
tractor is prepared to cleanse and limewash
floors at the rate of \$1.05 per floor on
application being made to the Secretary
of the Sanitary Board.

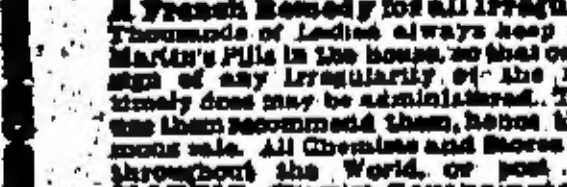
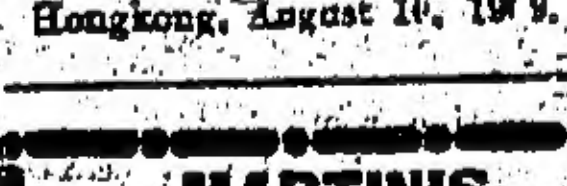
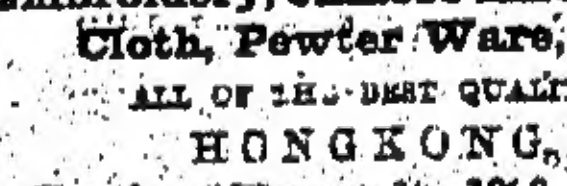
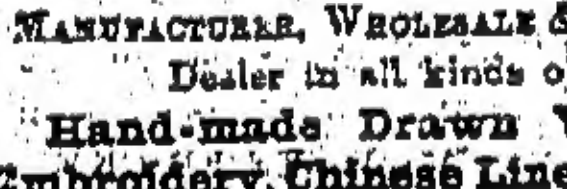
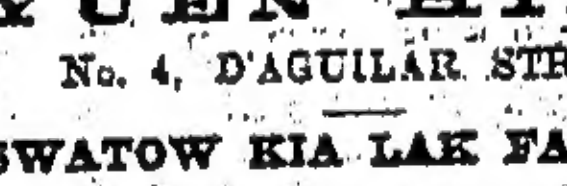
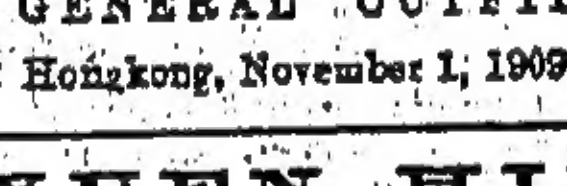
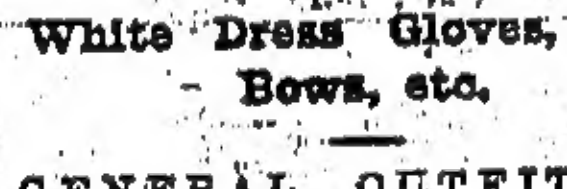
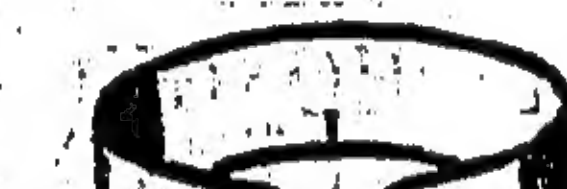
W. BOWEN ROWLANDS,
Secretary.

Dated this 4th day of January, 1910.

J. T. SHAW.

Tailor and Outfitter
Hongkong Hotel Buildings and
14, Des Vaux Road.

Fit and Style Guaranteed.



Intimations.

**THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER
COMPANY, LIMITED.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an
EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL
MEETING of the above named Company
will be held at the Office of Messrs
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., Victoria, Hong-
kong, on SATURDAY, the 15th day of
January, 1910, at 11 o'clock in the fore-
noon, for the purpose of considering and if
thought fit adopting as a Special Resolu-
tion the Subjunctive Resolution which was
passed by the requisite majority at the
Extraordinary General Meeting of the
Company held on the 30th day of Decem-
ber, 1909.

That the Articles of Association of the
Company be altered

1. By inserting therein immediately
after paragraph 4 of Clause VIII a new
paragraph as follows:-

Whenever the Capital of the Com-
pany is divided into several Classes of
Shares all or any of the rights and
privileges attached to any
Class may be modified or dealt with
by Special Resolution of the Com-
pany passed pursuant to an Agree-
ment in writing made between the
Company and some member of the
Class representing the entire share-
holding of the Class or by writing
under the hand of the holders of
at least two-thirds of the Shares of
the Class and it shall be no objection
to any such Agreement that it
provides for the redemption of the
Shares of the Class or for the
transfer of the Shares of the Class or
for the payment of a dividend or
bonus otherwise than in accord-
ance with the rights of the Holders
of the Shares of the Class or for
the allotment of shares credited as
fully or partly paid up in satisfac-
tion of the Shares of the Class or for
the purposes of the Class or for any
other purpose which may be deemed
expedient by a majority of not less
than two-thirds of such members of the
Class entitled to vote as aforesaid.

present in person or by proxy at
a separate General Meeting of the
Class of which Notice specifying the
intention to propose the Resolu-
tion as an Extraordinary Resolu-
tion has been duly given and to
that the quorum of the said
Meeting shall be three mem-
bers at least of the Class and so
that the Meeting shall be called in
accordance with the provisions
hereof.

2. By inserting immediately after para-
graph 7 of Clause XVI a new paragraph as
follows:-

Any General Meeting declaring a
Dividend may direct payment of
such Dividend wholly or in part
by the distribution of specific
assets and in particular of paid up
shares Debentures or Debenture
stock of the Company or of any
other Company or in any one
or more of such ways and the
General Managers shall give effect
to such direction and where any
difficulty arises in regard to the
distribution they may settle the
same as they think expedient and
in particular may issue fractional
Certificates and may for the value
of such specific assets in Trustees
upon such trusts for the persons
entitled to the Dividend as may
seem exped

Bankers



POWELL'S

FOR
SMART

BOWLER

HATS.

28, QUEEN'S ROAD.

A. S. WATSON
& Co., Ltd.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

FANCY

TOILET

ARTICLES

HANDSOME TOILET SETS

Silver-mounted,
in fancy leather cases.

MANICURE SETS

Silver-mounted.

CUT GLASS PERFUME

BOTTLES

CUT GLASS TOILET

BOTTLES

Silver-mounted.

GILLETTE RAZORS

(Pocket)

Gold and Silver-mounted.

THERMOS FLASKS

Perfume Sprays,

Hand Mirrors,

Shaving Mirrors.

AND OTHER ARTICLES IN
GREAT VARIETY.A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

ALEXANDRA BUILDING.

VICTORIA CINEMATOPH.

DEBUT OF THE CELEBRATED AUSTRALIAN ARTISTES
(Corner of Robinson Street).

The Popular Hall of the Colony.

TO-NIGHT! TO-NIGHT!
Debut of the celebrated Australian Artistes

Mr. T. HOWARD & Miss L. LEE.

FAREWELL PERFORMANCE
of the Celebrated Soprano

MISS ETHEL LESLIE.

GRAND PROGRAMME

MATINEES:
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, at 4 P.M.NEW
PIANOS

ON HIRE

\$10 PER MONTH.

Tuning and Regular

Attention Inclusive.

S. MOUTRIE & Co.,

LIMITED.

HONGKONG, April 16, 1907.

MEMOS FOR TO-MORROW.

Miscellaneous

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. - Military Gun Practice.

6 p.m. - First Lecture to Ladies on

"Home Nursing."

Amusements.

9 p.m. - Philharmonic Concert at City Hall.

General Memoranda.

SATURDAY, January 8.

11 a.m. - Auction of 8,000 Bags Flour

at H. K. & E. Wharf & Godown

Co.'s Godown, Kowloon.

2 p.m. - Military Gun Practice.

MONDAY, January 10.

7 p.m. - 10 p.m. - Military Gun Practice.

TUESDAY, January 11.

3 p.m. - First Lecture to Ladies on "First

Aid."

5.15 p.m. - Meeting of Hongkong Bene-

volent Society in City Hall.

THURSDAY, January 13.

11 a.m. - Auction of 13 Cigarette Ma-

chines, at St. Paul's.

SATURDAY, January 15.

11 a.m. - Meeting of China Light and

Power Co.

9 p.m. - Performance of Lilliputians at

Club Lusitano.

MONDAY, January 17.

9 p.m. - "The Tormentor" by H. K.

A.D.C. at Theatre Royal, City Hall.

SATURDAY, January 22.

Marathon Race from Aberdeen Docks

to H. K. Cricket Club.

TUESDAY, January 25.

9 p.m. - South Concert in Theatre Royal.

FRIDAY, January 28.

9 p.m. - Volunteer Dance.

SATURDAY, January 29.

12 Noon - First Distribution by H. K.

A.D.C. at St. Paul's School.

9 p.m. - Boxing at City Hall: Billy

Bulwer v. Bill Lewis.

The China Mail.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 1910.

THE COLONIAL CEMETERY.

Quite a little breeze developed on

Tuesday at the meeting of the Sanitary

Board, the subject being that rather old

house of contention, the apportioning of

certain sections of the Colonial

Cemetery for specific purposes and

the suggested exhumation of bodies.

As most of our readers are aware

the pressure upon the available

space set apart in Happy Valley for

the interment of the dead is increasing

apace these days and already we are

beginning to find that lovely spot

rather cramped and in need of re-

arrangement. The Sanitary Board have

consequently been considering, for

some time past, ways and means for

adequately meeting the needs of the

immediate future and a sub-committee

has presented a report which proposes

that the Cemetery be divided into six

sections, viz:—(1) Naval and Military

commissioned officers; (2) Civil ser-

vants; (3) residents of more than

twenty years' standing; (4) Residents

of more than seven years' standing;

(5) Children; (6) Destitutes. It was

suggested that the naval and military

sections be as far as possible subdivided,

one portion being allotted to the naval

the other to the military officers; while

with regard to the portion now set

aside for the interment of destitute

persons, it was suggested that this por-

tion of the Cemetery, in order to provide

more space, might be rendered more

generally available by exhuming the present

remains and re-interring them elsewhere.

Other suggestions were also put forward

with regard to some of the other terraces

the same object, increase of space

being kept in view. In a minute

attached to the report, the Hon. Mr.

Barnes, Registrar-General, strongly

disapproved of exhumation, contending

that "it must be a money-grubbing

community that cannot spare the land

to bury its dead and leave them

in peace," and in the public

debate on Tuesday this view was

strongly supported by the Hon. Mr.

Hewitt. In previous discussions re-

garding the Cemetery Mr. Hewitt has

taken up very much the same line of

argument. He also does not see the

necessity for separating the two

services, nor for allotting other portions

of the Cemetery to old residents and

other parts to comparatively new comers;

holding that therein of such reservations

smacks of snobbery. Of course we all ad-

mit that Death is the great leveler of all

human distinctions. Once we have

done with the cares of this world and

passed behind the veil which shrouds

the prospect of futurity from human

vision, we are all equal and the

poor tenement of clay which we

leave behind is of the same intrinsic

value whether its occupant in

life had been a prince or a pauper.

But if we gather the reasons aright

which have led this Colony to set apart

certain portions of its general cemetery

for specific purposes, no question of

snobbery enters into the question at all.

The idea is that our loved ones who put

off the burden of the flesh in Hongkong

would prefer to take their last long rest

sleeping in the company of the men

and women who were their companions,

associates and friends when they first

came here. It is a pretty idea and one

not to be sneered at even in this

materialistic world. While with regard

to the separation of the two services

Col. Bedford pointed out that it was

merely for purposes of easier adminis-

tration of certain funds, and also for ease

in after years of discovering graves in

which members of the different services

lie buried. The same remark applies

to the setting apart of a reserved space

for civil servants. In such a quickly

changing community as ours, some such

arrangement strikes one as being de-

cidedly sensible and withal very prac-

tical. In regard to the question of

exhumation, we freely admit that Mr.

Hewitt has much to support his con-

tention, and that there are many

people of his way of thinking in

the Colony. But here again

sentiment is undoubtedly the biggest

factor in the case. It is unquestionably

the feeling among Anglo-Saxon and

Teutonic people generally that once

a person is laid beneath the sod

he or she should rest there un-

disturbed for ever. It is a laudable

sentiment, and one that makes a fine

appeal to many of our deeper feelings,

but if it had been carried out universally

the effect to-day would be that the

living would be literally crowded off

the earth by the dead. As it is the

world is really one huge cemetery

containing in one form or another the

elements of myriads of men who have

gone before, and therefore we are

unconsciously intruding upon the dead

all the time, and especially in China,

which has often, with great justice,

been described as a universal graveyard.

Practical reasons therefore point to

the same utility underlying the

suggestions of the sub-committee of the

Sanitary Board and their report should

meet with public approval rather than

condemnation. If any of the unknown

dead who now lie in the portion of

the Colonial Cemetery reserved for

destitutes have to be exhumed we can

rest assured that they will be treated

with the greatest care and reverence.

They will repose none the less serenely

though they be removed from their

original resting place, while public

utility will be served and convenience

furthered without any vengeance of

shame or reproach to the Colony.

According to the calculations of several

assessments it is possible that Halfey's

casket will pass before the sun on May 18,

when its head will be 16,146,000 miles

from us. Inasmuch as the tails of comets

frequently extend from 20 to 35 millions of

miles and form, this enormous appendage

could this envelop us in a few hours. The

earth has, however, already passed through

a comet's tail in 1819 and in 1841 without

being any the worse for the experience.

TWELFTH NIGHT.

(Specialty written for the "CHINA MAIL.")

We are often told that we live in a

degenerate age, and one of the accusations

brought against us is that we take too

many holidays. And yet, in the 'good

old times,' festivals and holy days were

celebrated with a zeal unknown to-day.

At Christmas the feasting and merry-

making were not then confined to one or

two days, as at present, but spread over

weeks, during which time the darkness and

dreariness of the short winter day and long

frosty nights were forgotten in the warmth

of the Yuletide fires and the mirth and good

cheer of the Christmas season.

At one time the Christmas festivities were

continued, with more or less brilliancy, till

Candlemas Day, February 2nd, but later

the feast of Christmas, beginning on

Christmas Eve, lasted 12 days, coming to

an end on the day of the Epiphany,

January 6, hence called Twelfth Night.

This day is celebrated in memory of the

visit of the Wise Men from the East to the

new born Christ at Bethlehem, as related

by St. Matthew. There is a legend which

tells that these same wise men were three

Kings, by name Caspar, Melchior, and

Balthasar, who ruled in the kingdoms of

Tharsh, Nubia, and Saba, at the time of

the birth of Christ. Centuries before—

ever since the Syrian seer Balaam had pre-

sented "There shall come a Star out of

Israel"—the kings of these lands had

appointed twelve astrologers to live apart

at the top of a high mountain, and watch

the sky at night for the coming of a new

star. When one died his place was filled by

a successor, and so on throughout the years

till the prophecy should be fulfilled.

Thus it came to pass that when a

wonderful star, bright as the sun, appeared

in heaven, and shone without ceasing day

and night, Caspar, Melchior, and Bal-

thasar, were warned by the astrologers,

and each, unknown to the others, prepared

to set forth in search of the new born

King. Each started in kindly state with

a long retinue bearing precious gifts, and

guided by the star which moved before

them, journeyed through forest and wilder-

ness, through marsh and desert, without

pausing to eat or sleep until they came

near to Jerusalem. But when they reached

the hill of Calvary, a thick mist

arose, and hid the star from their

sight. As they waited in doubt and per-

plexity, the mist dispersed, and each king

saw the others for the first time, and asking

whether they journeyed, discovered that

they were all bound on the same errand.

Arrived at Jerusalem, they sought counsel

of Herod and the chief priests and scribes,

expecting to find the King in that great

city, but learning that Bethlehem had been

foretold as His birthplace, they journeyed

thither, the star moving on before them

till it stood over the place where the child

was, killing all the stable with its pure

radiance. When the three Kings saw

the Babe and His mother they worshipped

Him, and forgetting in their joy the

many rich gifts they had prepared, each

offered what came first to his hand.

DANGERS OF HONGKONG
ROADS.ANOTHER ASSAULT ON A
FOREIGN LADY.More European Police Urgently
Wanted.

We have frequently called attention to the many assaults on European ladies which have occurred of late within the Colony and have urged upon the authorities the necessity for strengthening the European arm of the police force. That our representations and warnings are not based on idle fancy was again demonstrated on Wednesday afternoon, when a most determined assault was made by a Chinese ruffian upon a young European lady who was walking along Canton road. The object of the assault was robbery, but the lady in question pluckily repelled her assailant and chased him down Aberdeen street. Unfortunately there were no police to come to her assistance and in the end the man got away.

This assault took place in broad daylight and in a quarter of the city where a cry for help should certainly be responded to by some member of the police force almost as soon as uttered. Yet there was nobody, either European, Indian or Chinese to see or hear in the whole stretch of road along which the lady pursued her would-be robber. The occurrence of such an affair in such a place and at such a time points to the absolute justice of the general complaint that the police force of the Colony at the present time is inadequate for the lawful needs of the public peace. Of course as Chinese New Year approaches it is inevitable that there should be an increase of the undesirable element in the floating population of the Colony, therefore all the more reason that proper measures should be adopted to exercise a thorough control. Unfortunately the police force of the Colony has been whittled down to a dangerous extent under the pressure of misguided attempts at economy and the result is written broadcast for everyone to read. Surely the authorities will now wake up, for the circumstances of the time demand that the call for more police should be met.

INTERESTING EXTRADITION
CASE.

Chinese Right to be Heard.

Before the Acting Chief Justice (Mr. W. Rees Davies, K.C.) and the Puisne Judge (Mr. Justice Gompertz), sitting as a Full Court, this morning, Mr. M. W. Slade applied under the Chinese Extradition Ordinance for a *reus natus* directed to the Captain Superintendent of Police to show cause why Sun Ah Wan, now detained in Victoria Gaol, should not be discharged from custody.

The Acting Attorney General (Hon. Mr. F. A. Haslam) and Mr. C. G. Alabaster appeared for the Crown, and Sir Henry Berkeley represented the Chinese Government.

Mr. Slade said his friend Sir Henry Berkeley was appearing for some person unknown for whom, so far as he knew, there was no right of audience in that Court at all.

Sir Henry Berkeley held that he had a right of audience, saying that he was merely acting in accordance with the established practice in England and the practice and custom of the Hongkong Court. He quoted a case which came before the Full Court in 1887 in which Leung Ah Foo was brought up on a writ of *habeas corpus* and when Mr. Francis, Q.C., appeared on behalf of the Chinese Government in support of the warrant of commitment. He (Sir Henry) presumed that the fact that China had no representative in Hongkong formed the reason for the omission to reserve the Chinese Government with a *reus natus* in this case. There was no diplomatic representative of China here, but there was a representative other than diplomatic.

The Chief Justice—Who is the representative of the Chinese Government?

Sir Henry Berkeley—I am, and I ask to be heard.

Mr. Slade—Is he detained?

Sir Henry Berkeley—Of course I am retained, or I should not be here. The question is whether the Chinese Government has any *locus standi*. I say it has. There is no possible reason why the courtesy of this Court should not be extended to China. The Chinese Government make no claim of a right to appear here, but following precedent I hope your Lordships will hear me. Mr. Slade—I am not concerned. I don't mind how many counsel appear against me (laughter).

Sir Henry Berkeley pressed his right in accordance with precedent.

Mr. Slade—Well, I'm not concerned either way. If the British and Chinese Governments like to have a fight in Court, well all I can say is, more power to their elbows.

After their Lordships had conferred the Chief Justice said: "We have before us a direct precedent for the Chinese Government being represented in this Court, and, without in any way endeavouring to criticize or set aside the decision of the Chief Justice in the case cited, we are disposed to hear Sir Henry Berkeley for the Chinese Government, and we will consider the point raised by Mr. Slade and give our full reasons for the course we adopt in a judgment hereafter."

Mr. Slade, in making the application, said his reasons were, first, that there was no proof that plaintiff was a subject of China, and, secondly, that no warrant or other document proving any accusation made in China had been produced.

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HONGKONG LIBEL ACTION

Interesting Point of Law.

Before the Acting Chief Justice (Mr. W. Rees Davies, K.C.) and the Puisne Judge (Mr. Justice Gompertz), sitting as a Full Court, this morning, a point of law was raised in the libel action brought by the Basel Mission against the Chinese newspaper, the *Shung Po*, published in Hongkong.

The point, which was reserved when the case came before the Acting Chief Justice and a jury, was whether the Corporation as such were competent to sue.

Mr. M. W. Slade was for plaintiffs, while Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., defended.

Mr. Slade said the action was brought by the plaintiffs, who were a corporation, incorporated by Ordinance of this Colony, for a libel, which they alleged to be a libel upon them. The statement of claim stated that the plaintiffs were a Corporation and carried on the business of a medical practitioner at Ho Yuen in the province of Kwangtung, China. By their defence the defendants denied that plaintiffs carried on, or ever had carried on, such business or profession. The plaintiff Corporation gave evidence that at Ho Yuen they had a hospital under the charge of a qualified medical man in their employment. That hospital charges were made to those who could afford to pay them, but in cases of extreme poverty medical assistance was given gratuitously. The defendants tendered no evidence at all on any issue in the case. So the position of affairs was that it is an uncontroverted fact that the plaintiff society carried on the business of a hospital and medical practitioner at Ho Yuen. Although it was proved to evidence that the plaintiffs were a missionary society and did not carry on the business of a hospital for pecuniary gain, yet the carrying on of the hospital in the way it had been proved to be carried on in that case was, according to the authorities, the carrying on of a business. The question of carrying on a philanthropic institution in which small payments were made for services rendered but no attempt was made to carry on the institution at a profit had been considered in a number of cases. Counsel proceeded to quote a number of these. The business which the plaintiff Society carried on would be clearly a business if carried on by any ordinary person for the purpose of making a profit out of it. The Corporation was merely a legal entity which carried on such business, profession, or calling as it did in fact carry on by means of persons in its employment. Counsel proceeded to indicate precisely what a libel was, quoting from an authority to the effect that any written words were defamatory which had a tendency to injure the plaintiff in his calling, profession or trade. In this case the words used were actionable only if they were spoken of the plaintiffs in the way of their profession, business, or trade. The jury were asked by the Chief Justice whether it was a libel on the plaintiffs' society.

Sir Henry Berkeley—The sole point reserved was whether or not the Corporation were entitled to sue.

Mr. Slade—But I must clear the ground in order to get down to the bed-rock. Proceeding, he said the jury were further asked whether the serious reflections in the libel on the doctor and missionary did in fact damage the plaintiff society.

The Chief Justice—That was your case.

Sir Henry Berkeley—Always assuming they had a right to sue.

Mr. Slade—The jury found that the words did injure the society.

Sir Henry Berkeley—I don't deny that.

Mr. Slade—The jury held that these untrue words did injure the society.

Sir Henry Berkeley—If they could sue.

Mr. Slade proceeded to deal with the right of corporations to bring actions for libel and slander. He quoted an authority to the effect that a Corporation was capable of being defamed in respect of its business. He also quoted Lord Esher to the effect that the law of libel was one and the same as to all plaintiffs, and that every action for libel where the statement complained of was or was not a libel depended on the same question, namely, whether the jury were of opinion that what had been published with regard to plaintiff would tend in the mind of people of ordinary sense to bring plaintiff into contempt, hatred or ridicule or injure his character. Mr. Slade said it was so that there might be a charge of libel brought against a Corporation which was of such a character as to render libel meaningless, because the Corporation would be impossible of moral injury.

The Chief Justice—Would not murder be such a case?

Mr. Slade—It all depends. If it was said of a Corporation which was a Municipal Corporation that it committed murder, it would be no libel, because a Municipal Corporation cannot commit murder. But where it is said of a Corporation which carries on a business of a hospital that they had committed murder, that would be a charge of libel and would be actionable.

The Chief Justice—Although the Corporation itself is physically impossible of committing the act alleged?

Mr. Slade—It is perfectly capable of committing acts, but it is not liable to be punished. Your Lordships must draw a distinction between a series of acts which will in the case of an individual render them liable to the penalty imposed by criminal law and the civil consequences of those same acts when committed by an individual on behalf of his employer.

Sir Henry Berkeley contended that no action could be brought by a Corporation in respect to property situated beyond Hongkong. The corporate property was limited to Hongkong.

The Chief Justice—Rightly or wrongly I differed from you there, otherwise I should have withdrawn the case from the jury.

Sir Henry Berkeley—I understood you reserved the whole point of capacity to sue.

The Chief Justice—That is a question on which I was rightly or wrongly satisfied.

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THE TEA TRADE.

A telegram to the North China Daily

News says that the Daily Telegraph in the

course of a review of the tea trade for the

year 1909 deplores the continued deteriora-

tion in the quality of the tea imported and

the generally diminishing quantity of fine

tea available. Now, however, the Daily

Telegraph adds, there are signs of a

change which is calculated to encourage

the growth of fine varieties. The per-

sistent foreign demand for the best

varieties, especially in Russia, should

make producers less dependent upon the

Home trade, while there are also indications

of an improving public taste in England,

which was the most interesting event of the

year. The deliveries of tea for Home use

to November 30 amounted to 7,000,000 lb.

above those for the similar period of 1908.

This increase is attributed to Old Age

Pensions and the decline in the consumption

of alcohol and tobacco. The re-exports

amounted to 9,431,000 lb. more for the

previous year. The prospects for the Home

trade for 1910 are at present good.

HOW COUGHS AND COLDS ARE
CURED IN BURMA.

THE following letter from the Superin-

tendent of the Municipal office at

Mandalay, Mr. R. G. Stevens, shows that

the method of curing colds in Burma is not

unlike that used in almost part of the civil-

ized world. He says: "I have used

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